
THE
MONTHLY EPITOME,

For JANUARY 1799.

I. *Imitations of Ancient and Modern Drawings*, from the Restoration of the Arts in Italy to the present Time. Together with a chronological Account of the Artists, and Strictures on their Works. In English and French. By C. M. Metz. Atlas Folio. pp. 14. Containing one hundred and nine Plates, from ancient and modern Masters. 9l. 9s. Metz.

EXTRACTS.

RULES FOR ASCERTAINING THE
ORIGINALITY OF DRAWINGS.

"IN this work I have principally confined myself to the Italian schools; although men of genius in the imitative arts were not confined to Italy; as, about the time of Raphael, there flourished in Germany, Albert Durer and Aldegraff; in Holland, Lucas van Leyden; in France, John de Mabuse: but as I wish to show the progress of the art from its revival by Cimabue; the Italian schools, at least during the sixteenth century, furnish sufficient examples for the purpose."

P. 1.

"The Emperor Charles the Fifth was the first that prefixed to his drawings a mark or stamp; a custom that has been since followed by many collectors, and which is sometimes no inconsiderable testimony of the authenticity and value of the drawing. When these marks are placed indiscriminately by the collectors on all their drawings, they are of no further importance than

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to show through whose hands they have passed; but when we meet with the stamp of Richardson, Sir Peter Lely (Lely), and some others, there is great probability that the drawing is the work of the master whose name is prefixed to it. Perhaps the stamp of the Emperor Charles the Fifth is, of all others, most to be depended on; for, as in his time there were but few collectors, the trick of forging drawings was, of course, not so common as it has been since. To this we may add, that during the reign of that monarch, the arts in Italy were in their full perfection; and, for a prince of his taste and power, it was easy to procure the works of the artists then actually existing. The ingenious artist, and indefatigable collector, Richardson, has bestowed infinite pains in putting his drawings in the best order, and illustrating them with many useful remarks; and it is very seldom we meet one of them that has a wrong name prefixed to it.

"I shall now proceed to a few observations, by which the originality of a drawing may be ascertained with a tolerable degree of certainty. I have already observed, that a certain spirit and freedom of handling, is a mark of originality; but more mechanical appearances sometimes greatly assist our judgment. For instance, when a drawing, exactly in all its parts, resembles the picture for which it is designed, or some print engraved from it, it is then, almost to a certainty, a copy; for, however carefully an artist may examine and finish his sketch, it is very impro-

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improbable that some new idea should not occur to him, in the course of his work, that will produce variations in the picture. Hence, the print engraved from the picture, will differ from the drawing. When a drawing, called Titian, Tintoret, Paul Veronese, or Rubens, is highly finished, it is next to a certainty that it is the work of an engraver for a print; as those masters were never known to make highly finished drawings. When the shade or wash tamely follows the outline, the wash at least is not genuine; for, in the shading, new ideas occur, and an artist will not be restrained by his outlines, and both in the shading and heightening will be found variations. When a composition of many figures is entirely without alterations, when not a single pentimento can be traced, the drawing then must have other strong marks of originality, to be considered as genuine; for the rapidity of our ideas will not allow of correctness, and when the group is formed, it is often necessary to correct the parts; this it is that forms those alterations, which are the greatest marks of originality. It must be observed, that by copies are not only meant the highly finished drawings of engravers, but before prints became so common throughout Europe, it was the common practice of travelling artists to make sketches from the best pictures, by way of memorandums, or for their improvement; and as this was usual, sometimes, with men considerably advanced in the art, it must follow that copies may possess spirit and freedom without being originals; but when they are the works of men of experience, and much practice in the art, they generally partake a little of their own manner, as may be seen in a number of them by Vandyke: and that very freedom of handling, without any variations, must prove them to be copies.

"Those where nothing but a servile and laborious imitation is aimed at, are easily distinguished.

"A picture or finished drawing may be correctly copied; but there is a spirit and rapidity of execution in a slight sketch, which no copyist can imitate. We are not always to judge of a drawing by its merits; every master had his beginning, his second,

and his last manner; the second of which is generally the best. The works of an artist may likewise be influenced by his humour, his health, his circumstances, &c.; but if the drawing has marks of originality, and it appears in the style of Raphael, we are not to reject it because it is an indifferent one. Titian proceeded so slowly and progressively, that we must follow him step by step. The drawing of the Nativity, contained in this work, seems something beyond the first, and that of the Chase appears of his best, or middle manner, the first having a degree of freedom beyond his early works; in the second we see a rapidity of execution, no longer impeded by study or doubt. The subject is likewise to be considered. Raphael was beyond all others in his Madonnas; but in battles was inferior to Giulio Romano; this will appear by comparing the Battle of Constantine, in this work, with the picture, or the print engraved by P. Aquila. When we have a tolerable knowledge of the hand of an artist, we should endeavour to be acquainted with his three principal manners. Painters that have formed their studies upon the works of others, have often varied their style; nevertheless, something of a manner will appear; it is on that general resemblance we must fix the criterion.

"It becomes easy to distinguish the author of a drawing when the style is never varied; such as Rubens, Rembrandt, Batista Franco, Giulio Romano, the two Zuccheros, and some others; they had acquired an early manner, which they never quitted. Care should be taken that the specimens, on which we form our taste, consist in original drawings; for, like a bad taste in drawing, we find it more difficult to eradicate wrong ideas, than acquire true judgment. The examination of prints is likewise of service, when we are at a loss to ascertain the master of a drawing; for, though we may not find exactly the same composition, the chance is greatly in our favour, that we may discover something by the same hand, which, upon comparison, will be found to possess a similarity of style, and frequently enable us to trace the author of a drawing unknown, or with a wrong name affixed to it." P. 3.

II. Travels through the States of North America, and the Province of Upper and Lower Canada, during the Years 1795, 1796, and 1797. By ISAAC WELD, Junior. 4to. pp. 464. 1l. 10s. Stockdale.

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EXTRACT FROM THE PREFACE.

"AT a period when war was spreading desolation over the fairest parts of Europe, when anarchy seemed to be extending its frightful progress from nation to nation, and when the storms that were gathering over his native country (Ireland) in particular, rendered it impossible to say how soon any one of its inhabitants might be forced to seek for refuge in a foreign land; the author of the following pages was induced to cross the Atlantic, for the purpose

purpose of examining with his own eyes into the truth of the various accounts which had been given of the flourishing and happy condition of the United States of America, and of ascertaining whether, in case of future emergency, any part of those territories might be looked forward to, as an eligible and agreeable place of abode. Arrived in America, he travelled pretty generally through the states of Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, New Jersey, and New York; he afterwards passed into the Canadas, desirous of obtaining equal information as to the state of those provinces, and of determining from his own immediate observations, how far the present condition of the inhabitants of the British dominions in America might be inferior, or otherwise, to that of the people of the States, who had now indeed thrown off the yoke, but were formerly common members of the same extensive empire." P. iii.

"If it shall appear to any one, that he has spoken with too much asperity of American men and American manners, the author begs that such language may not be ascribed to hasty prejudice, and a blind partiality for every thing that is European. He crossed the Atlantic strongly prepossessed in favour of the people and the country, which he was about to visit; and if he returned with sentiments of a different tendency, they resulted solely from a cool and dispassionate observation of what chance presented to his view when abroad." P. iv.

EXTRACTS.

CELEBRATED ROCK BRIDGE.

"AFTER remaining a considerable time in Bottetourt county, I again crossed Fluvanna river into the county of Rockbridge, so called from the remarkable natural bridge of rock that is in it. This bridge stands about ten miles from Fluvanna river, and nearly the same distance from the Blue Ridge. It extends across a deep cleft in a mountain, which, by some great convulsion of nature, has been split asunder from top to bottom, and it seems to have been left there purposely to afford a passage from one side of the chasm to the other. The cleft or chasm is about two miles long, and is in some places upwards of three hun-

dred feet deep; the depth varies according to the height of the mountain, being deepest where the mountain is most lofty. The breadth of the chasm also varies in different places; but in every part it is uniformly wider at top than towards the bottom. That the two sides of the chasm were once united appears very evident, not only from projecting rocks on the one side corresponding with suitable cavities on the other, but also from the different strata of earth, sand, clay, &c. being exactly similar from top to bottom on both sides; but by what great agent they were separated, whether by fire or by water, remains hidden amongst those arcana of nature which we vainly endeavour to develop.

"The arch consists of a solid mass of stone, or of several stones cemented so strongly together, that they appear but as one. This mass, it is to be supposed, at the time that the hill was rent asunder, was drawn across the fissure from adhering closely to one side, and being loosened from its bed of earth at the opposite one. It seems as probable, I think, that the mass of stone forming the arch was thus forcibly plucked from one side, and drawn across the fissure, as that the hill should have remained disunited at this one spot from top to bottom, and that a passage should afterwards have been forced through it by water. The road leading to the bridge runs through a thick wood, and up a hill, having ascended which, nearly to the top, you pause for a moment at finding a sudden discontinuance of the trees at one side; but the amazement which fills the mind is great indeed, when, on going a few paces towards the part which appears thus open, you find yourself on the brink of a tremendous precipice. You involuntarily draw back, stare around, then again come forward to satisfy yourself that what you have seen is real, and not the illusions of fancy. You now perceive, that you are upon the top of the bridge, to the very edge of which, on one side, you may approach with safety, and look down into the abyss, being protected from falling by a parapet of fixed rocks. The walls, as it were, of the bridge at this side are so perpendicular, that a person leaning over the parapet of rock might let fall a plummet from the hand to the very bottom of the chasm. On the opposite side this

this is not the case, nor is there any parapet; but from the edge of the road, which runs over the bridge, is a gradual slope to the brink of the chasm, upon which it is somewhat dangerous to venture. This slope is thickly covered with large trees, principally cedars and pines. The opposite side was also well furnished with trees formerly, but all those that grew near the edge of the bridge have been cut down by different people, for the sake of seeing them tumble to the bottom. Before the trees were destroyed in this manner, you might have passed over the bridge without having had any idea of being upon it; for the breadth of it is no less than eighty feet. The road runs nearly in the middle, and is frequented daily by waggons.

"At the distance of a few yards from the bridge, a narrow path appears, winding along the sides of the fissure, amidst immense rocks and trees, down to the bottom of the bridge. Here the stupendous arch appears in all its glory, and seems to touch the very skies. To behold it without rapture, indeed, is impossible; and the more critically it is examined, the more beautiful and the more surprising does it appear. The height of the bridge to the top of the parapet is two hundred and thirteen feet, by admeasurement with a line; the thickness of the arch forty feet; the span of the arch at top ninety feet; and the distance between the abutments at bottom fifty feet. The abutments consist of a solid mass of limestone on either side, and, together with the arch, seem as if they had been chiseled out by the hand of art. A small stream, called Cedar Creek, running at the bottom of the fissure, over a bed of rocks, adds much to the beauty of the scene." P. 127.

MODE OF CUTTING DOWN TREES, &c.

"WITH regard to American landscapes in general, it is to be observed, that their beauty is much impaired by the unpicturesque appearance of the angular fences, and of the stiff wooden houses, which have at a little distance a heavy, dull, and gloomy aspect. The stumps of the trees also, on land newly cleared, are most disagreeable objects, wherewith the eye is continually assailed. When trees are felled in America, they are never cut down

close to the ground, but the trunks are left standing two or three feet high; for it is found that a woodman can cut down many more in a day, standing with a gentle inclination of the body, than if he were to stoop so as to apply his axe to the bottom of the tree; it does not make any difference either to the farmer, whether the stump is left two or three feet high, or whether it is cut down level with the ground, as in each case it would equally be a hindrance to the plough. These stumps usually decay in the course of seven or eight years; sometimes however sooner, sometimes later, according to the quality of the timber. They never throw up suckers, as stumps of trees would do in England if left in that manner.

"The cultivated lands in this country are mostly parcelled out in small portions; there are no persons here, as on the other side of the mountains, possessing large farms; nor are there any eminently distinguished by their education or knowledge from the rest of their fellow-citizens. Poverty also is as much unknown in this country as great wealth. Each man owns the house he lives in and the land which he cultivates, and every one appears to be in a happy state of mediocrity, and unambitious of a more elevated situation than what he himself enjoys." P. 133.

EMIGRATION OF SQUIRRELS.

"THE Squirrels, this year (1796), contrary to the bears, migrated from the south, from the territory of the United States. Like the bears, they took to the water on arriving at it, but as if conscious of their inability to cross a very wide piece of water, they bent their course towards Niagara river, above the falls, and at its narrowest and most tranquil part crossed over into the British territory. It was calculated, that upwards of fifty thousand of them crossed the river in the course of two or three days, and such great depredations did they commit on arriving at the settlements on the opposite side, that in one part of the country the farmers deemed themselves very fortunate where they got in as much as one third of their crops of corn. These squirrels were all of the black kind, said to be peculiar to the continent of America; they are in shape similar

similar to the common gray squirrel, and weigh from one to two pounds and a half each. Some writers have asserted, that these animals cannot swim, but that when they come to a river, in migrating, each one provides itself with a piece of wood or bark, upon which, when a favourable wind offers, they embark, spread their bushy tails to catch the wind, and are thus wafted over to the opposite side. Whether these animals do or do not cross in this manner sometimes, I cannot take upon me to say; but I can safely affirm, that they do not always cross so, as I have frequently shot them in the water whilst swimming: no animals swim better; and when pursued, I have seen them eagerly take to the water. Whilst swimming their tail is useful to them by way of rudder, and they use it with great dexterity; owing to its being so light and bushy, the greater part of it floats upon the water, and thus helps to support the animal. The migration of any of these animals in such large numbers is said to be an infallible sign of a severe winter.* P. 271.

FALLS OF NIAGARA.

"IT was at an early hour of the day that we left the town of Niagara, or Newark, accompanied by the attorney-general and an officer of the British engineers, in order to visit these stupendous falls. Every step that we advanced toward them, our expectations rose to a higher pitch; our eyes were continually on the look-out for the column of white mist which hovers over them; and a hundred times, I believe, did we stop our carriage in

hopes of hearing their thundering sound; neither, however, was the mist to be seen, nor the sound to be heard, when we came to the foot of the hills; nor, after having crossed over them, were our eyes or ears more gratified. This occasioned no inconsiderable disappointment, and we could not but express our doubts to each other, that the wondrous accounts we had so frequently heard of the falls were without foundation, and calculated merely to impole on the minds of credulous people that inhabited a distant part of the world. These doubts were nearly confirmed when we found that, after having approached within half a mile of the place, the mist was but just discernible, and that the sound even then was not to be heard; yet it is nevertheless strictly true, that the tremendous noise of the falls may be distinctly heard, at times, at the distance of forty miles; and the cloud formed from the spray may be even seen still farther off; but it is only when the air is very clear, and there is a fine blue sky, which however are very common occurrences in this country, that the cloud can be seen at such a great distance. The hearing of the sound of the falls afar off also depends upon the state of the atmosphere: it is observed, that the sound can be heard at the greatest distance just before a heavy fall of rain, and when the wind is in a favourable point to convey the sound toward the listener: the day on which we first approached the falls was thick and cloudy.

"On that part of the road leading to Lake Erie which draws nearest to the falls, there is a small village, consisting of about half a dozen straggling

* "In the present instance it certainly was so, for the ensuing winter proved to be the severest that had been known in North America for several years."

† "We ourselves, some time afterwards, beheld the cloud with the naked eye, at no less a distance than fifty-four miles, when sailing on Lake Erie, on board one of the king's ships. The day on which we saw it was uncommonly clear and calm, and we were seated on the poop of the vessel, admiring the bold scenery of the southern shore of the lake, when the commander, who had been aloft to make some observations, came to us, and pointing to a small white cloud in the horizon, told us, that that was the cloud overhanging Niagara. At first it appeared to us that this must have been a mere conjecture; but on minute observation it was evident that the commander's information was just. All the other light clouds in a few minutes flitted away to another part of the horizon, whereas this one remained steadily fixed in the same spot; and on looking at it through a glass, it was plain to see that the shape of the cloud varied every instant, owing to the continued rising of the mist from the cataract beneath."

houses:

houses: here we alighted, and having disposed of our horses, and made a slight repast, in order to prepare us for the fatigue we had to go through, we crossed over some fields towards a deep hollow place surrounded with large trees, from the bottom of which issued thick volumes of whitish mist, that had much the appearance of smoke arising from large heaps of burning weeds. Having come to the edge of this hollow place we descended a steep bank of about fifty yards, and then walking for some distance over a wet marshy piece of ground, covered with thick bushes, at last came to the Table Rock, so called from the remarkable flatness of its surface, and its bearing some similitude to a table. This rock is situated a little to the front of the great fall, above the top of which it is elevated about forty feet. —

"Here the spectator has an uninterrupted view of the tremendous rapids above the falls, and of the circumjacent shores, covered with thick woods; of the Horse-shoe Fall, some yards below him; of the Fort Schloper Fall, at a distance to the left; and of the frightful gulf beneath, into which, if he has but courage to approach to the exposed edge of the rock, he may look down perpendicularly. The astonishment excited in the mind of the spectator by the vastness of the different objects which he contemplates from hence is great indeed; and few persons, on coming here for the first time, can for some minutes collect themselves sufficiently to be able to form any tolerable conception of the stupendous scene before them. It is impossible for the eye to embrace the whole of it at once; it must gradually make itself acquainted, in the first place, with the component parts of the scene, each one of which is in itself an object of wonder; and such a length of time does this operation require, that many of those who have had an opportunity of contemplating the scene at their leisure, for years together have thought, that every time they have beheld it each part has appeared more wonderful and more sublime, and that it has only been at the time of their last visit that they have been able to discover the grandeur of the cataract." P. 310.

"Since the Falls of Niagara were first discovered they have receded very considerably, owing to the disrapture

of the rocks which form the precipice. The rocks at bottom are first loosened by the constant action of the water upon them; they are afterwards carried away, and those at top being thus undermined, are soon broken by the weight of the water rushing over them: even within the memory of many of the present inhabitants of the country the falls have receded several yards." P. 320.

"The Falls of Niagara are much less difficult of access now than they were some years ago. Charlevoix, who visited them in the year 1720, tells us, that they were only to be viewed from one spot; and that from thence the spectator had only a side prospect of them. Had he been able to have descended to the bottom, he would have had ocular demonstration of the existence of caverns underneath the precipice, which he supposed to be the cause from the hollow sound of the falling of the waters; from the number of carcases washed up there on different parts of the strand, and would also have been convinced of the truth of a circumstance which he totally disbelieved, namely, that fish were oftentimes unable to stem the rapid current above the falls, and were consequently carried down the precipice.

"The most favourable season for visiting the falls is about the middle of September, the time when we saw them; for then the woods are seen in all their glory, beautifully variegated with the rich tints of autumn; and the spectator is not then annoyed with vermin. In the summer season you meet with rattlesnakes at every step, and mosquitoes swarm so thickly in the air, that, to use a common phrase of the country, 'you might cut them with a knife.' The cold nights in the beginning of September effectually banish these noxious animals." P. 322.

SQUIRREL HUNTING.

"IN our rambles we used frequently to fall in with parties of the Seneca Indians, from the opposite side of the lake, that were amusing themselves with hunting and shooting squirrels. They shot them principally with bows and blow-guns; at the use of which last the Senecas are wonderfully expert. The blow-gun is a narrow tube, commonly about six feet in length,

made

made of a cane reed, or of some pithy wood, through which they drive short slender arrows by the force of the breath. The arrows are not much thicker than the lower string of a violin; they are headed generally with little triangular bits of tin, and round the opposite ends, for the length of two inches, a quantity of the down of thistles, or something very like it, is bound, so as to leave the arrows at this part of such a thickness that they may but barely pass into the tube. The arrows are put in at the end of the tube that is held next to the mouth, the down catches the breath, and with a smart puff they will fly to the distance of fifty yards. I have followed young Seneka Indians whilst shooting with blow-guns, for hours together, during which time I have never known them once to miss their aim, at the distance of ten or fifteen yards, although they shot at the little red squirrels, which are not half the size of a rat; and with such wonderful force used they to blow forth the arrows, that they frequently drove them up to the very thistle-down through the heads of the largest black squirrels. The effect of these guns appears at first like magic. The tube is put to the mouth, and in the twinkling of an eye you see the squirrel that is aimed at fall lifeless to the ground; no report, not the smallest noise even, is to be heard, nor is it possible to see the arrow, so quickly does it fly, until it appears fastened in the body of the animal." P. 328.

PRESENTS TO THE INDIANS FROM
THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT.

"ADJOINING to our friend's house at Malden stands an extensive range of storehouses, for the reception of the presents yearly made by government to the Indians in this part of the country, in which several clerks are kept constantly employed. Before we had been long at Malden we had an opportunity of seeing some of the presents delivered out. A number of chiefs of different tribes had previously come to our friend, who is at the head of the department in this quarter, and had given to him, each, a bundle of little bits of cedar-wood, about the thickness of a small pocket-book pencil, to remind him of the exact

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number of individuals in each tribe that expected to share the bounty of their great father. The sticks in these bundles were of different lengths; the longest denoted the number of warriors in the tribe, the next in size the number of women, and the smallest the number of children. Our friend on receiving them handed them over to his clerks, who made a memorandum in their books of the contents of each bundle, and of the persons that gave them, in order to prepare the presents accordingly. The day fixed upon for the delivery of the presents was bright and fair, and being in every respect favourable for the purpose, the clerks began to make the necessary arrangements accordingly.

"A number of large stakes were first fixed down in different parts of the lawn, to each of which was attached a label, with the name of the tribe, and the number of persons in it who were to be provided for; then were brought out from the stores several bales of thick blankets, of blue, scarlet, and brown cloth, and of coarse figured cottons, together with large rolls of tobacco, guns, flints, powder, balls, shot, case-knives, ivory and horn combs, looking-glasses, pipe-tomahawks, hatchets, scissars, needles, vermilion in bags, copper and iron pots and kettles, the whole valued at about 500*l.* sterling. The bales of goods being opened, the blankets, cloths, and cottons were cut up into small pieces, each sufficient to make for one person a wrapper, a shirt, a pair of leggings, or whatever else it was intended for; and the portions of the different articles intended for each tribe were thrown together in a heap at the bottom of the stake which bore its name. This business took up several hours, as there were no less than four hundred and twenty Indians to be served. No liquor, nor any silver ornaments, except to favourite chiefs in private, are ever given on the part of government to the Indians, notwithstanding they are so fond of both; and a trader who attempts to give these articles to them in exchange for the presents they have received from government, or, indeed, who takes from them, on any conditions, their presents, is liable to a very heavy penalty for every such act, by the laws of the province.

"The presents having been all prepared,

C

pared, the chiefs were ordered to assemble their warriors, who were loitering about the grounds at the outside of the lawn. In a few minutes they all came, and having been drawn up in a large circle, our friend delivered a speech on the occasion, without which ceremony no business, according to Indian custom, is ever transacted. In this they were told, 'That their great and good father, who lived on the opposite side of the big lake (meaning thereby the king), was ever attentive to the happiness of all his faithful people; and that, with his accustomed bounty, he had sent the presents which now lay before them to his good children the Indians; that he had sent the guns, the hatchets, and the ammunition for the young men, and the clothing for the aged, women, and children; that he hoped the young men would have no occasion to employ their weapons in fighting against enemies, but merely in hunting; and that he recommended it to them to be attentive to the old, and to share bountifully with them what they gained by the chase; that he trusted the great spirit would give them bright suns and clear skies, and a favourable season for hunting; and that when another year should pass over, if he still continued to find them good children, he would not fail to renew his bounties, by sending them more presents from across the big lake.'

"This speech was delivered in English, but interpreters attended, who repeated it to the different tribes in their respective languages, paragraph by paragraph, at the end of every one of which the Indians signified their satisfaction by a loud coarse exclamation of 'Hoah! Hoah!' The speech ended, the chiefs were called forward, and their several heaps were shown to them, and committed to their care. They received them with thanks, and beckoning to their warriors, a number of young men quickly started from the crowd, and in less than three minutes the presents were conveyed from the lawn, and laden on board the canoes in waiting to convey them to the island and adjacent villages. The utmost regularity and propriety was manifested on this occasion in the behaviour of every Indian; there was not the smallest wrangling amongst them about their presents; nor was the least spark

of jealousy observable in any one tribe about what the other had received; each one took up the heap allotted to it, and departed without speaking a word." P. 336.

IROQUOIS INDIANS IN PARIS.

"A FRENCH writer, I forget who, tells us of some Iroquois Indians that walked through several of the finest streets of Paris, but without expressing the least pleasure at any thing they saw, until they at last came to a cook's shop; this called forth their warmest praise; a shop where a man was always sure of getting something to satisfy his hunger, without the trouble and fatigue of hunting and fishing, was in their opinion one of the most admirable institutions possible: had they been told, however, that they must have paid for what they ate, they would have expressed equal indignation perhaps at what they saw. In their own villages they have no idea of refusing food to any person that enters their habitation in quality of a friend." P. 396.

REMARKS ON THE INDIANS.

"THOUGH the Indians in general appear so reserved in the presence of strangers, yet the firmness of their dispositions forbids them from ever appearing embarrassed; and they would sit down to table in a palace, before the first crowned head on the face of the earth, with as much unconcern as they would sit down to a frugal meal in one of their own cabins. They deem it highly becoming in a warrior to accommodate his manners to those of the people with whom he may happen to be, and, as they are wonderfully observant, you will seldom perceive any thing of awkwardness or vulgarity in their behaviour in the company of strangers. I have seen an Indian, that had lived in the woods from his infancy, enter a drawing-room in Philadelphia, full of ladies, with as much ease and as much gentility as if he had always lived in the city; and merely from having been told, preparatory to his entering, the form usually observed on such occasions. But the following anecdote will put this matter in a stronger point of view.

"Our friend Nekig, the Little Otter, had been invited to dine with us at the house

house of a gentleman at Detroit, and he came accordingly, accompanied by his son, a little boy of about nine or ten years of age. After dinner a variety of fruits were served up, and amongst the rest some peaches, a dish of which was handed to the young Indian. He helped himself to one with becoming propriety; but immediately afterwards he put the fruit to his mouth and bit a piece out of it. The father eyed him with indignation, and spoke some words to him in a low voice, which I could not understand, but which, on being interpreted by one of the company, proved to be a warm reprimand for his having been so deficient in observation as not to peel his peach, as he saw the gentleman opposite to him had done. The little fellow was extremely ashamed of himself; but he quickly retrieved his error, by drawing a plate towards him, and peeling the fruit with the greatest neatness.

"Some port wine, which he was afterwards helped to, not being by any means agreeable to his palate, the little fellow made a wry face, as a child might naturally do, after drinking it. This called forth another reprimand from the father, who told him, that he despaired of ever seeing him a great man or a good warrior, if he appeared then to dislike what his host had kindly helped him to. The boy drank the rest of his wine with seeming pleasure.

"The Indians scarcely ever lift their hands against their children; but if they are unmindful of what is said to them, they sometimes throw a little water in their faces, a species of reprimand of which the children have the greatest dread, and which produces an instantaneous good effect. One of the French missionaries tells us of his having seen a girl of an advanced age so vexed at having some water thrown in her face by her mother, as if she was still a child, that she instantly retired and put an end to her existence. As long as they remain children, the young Indians are attentive in the extreme to the advice of their parents; but arrived at the age of puberty, and able to provide for themselves, they no longer have any respect for them, and they will follow their own will and pleasure in spite of all their remonstrances, unless, indeed, their parents be of an advanced age. Old age never fails to command their most profound veneration." P. 399.

ANECDOTE OF A FRENCH MISSIONARY.

"THE great difficulty of converting the Indians to Christianity does not arise from their attachment to their own religion, where they have any, so much as from certain habits which they seem to have imbibed with the very milk of their mothers.

"A French missionary relates, that he was once endeavouring to convert an Indian, by describing to him the rewards that would attend the good, and the dreadful punishment which must inevitably await the wicked, in a future world, when the Indian, who had some time before lost his dearest friend, suddenly interrupted him, by asking him, whether he thought his departed friend was gone to heaven or to hell. 'I sincerely trust,' answered the missionary, 'that he is in heaven.' 'Then I will do as you bid me,' added the Indian, 'and lead a sober life, for I should like to go to the place where my friend is.' Had he, on the contrary, been told that his friend was in hell, all that the reverend father could have said to him of fire and brimstone would have been of little avail in persuading him to have led any other than the most dissolute life, in hopes of meeting with his friend to sympathize with him under his sufferings." P. 410.

III. *Van Broom's Embassy to China.*
(Concluded from vol. ii. p. 415.)

February 4th, 1795.

"THIS is a day of rest, as to us, on account of an eclipse of the moon, which obliges the Emperor and all the grandees of the empire to retire into their inner apartments, and put on mourning. His Majesty on such occasions is entirely taken up with the performance of some pious rites in favour of the sun or moon, in order to rescue them from the dreadful fate with which they are threatened by the great dragon, who obscures the splendour of one or other of those planets, by holding them in his mouth with the intention of swallowing them. The Chinese persist in this miserable superstition, to which they have been addicted from time immemorial, although the most plain demonstrations of a planetarium show them that the event is natural,

and the eclipses of the moon are caused by the interposition of the earth between the sun and moon while the latter is at the full; in like manner as the eclipses of the sun are produced at the time of the new moon, by its interposition between the sun and the earth. But the attachment of this nation for the ideas of its ancestors, and its veneration for the commandments it has received from them, are so strong, that a son never dares to appear more learned than his father. It is from this rule of its ancient philosophers, which should rather be taken in a figurative than a literal sense, that results its little progress in all the sciences, and its blind attachment to old customs." *Vol. ii. p. 37.*

OF WARMING APARTMENTS IN CHINA.

"IN all China the houses are built upon the ground; that is to say, without having any cellar under them. The apartments are paved with flat square bricks, a thing very agreeable in warm weather, but very little suitable to the severe season of the year.

"To defend them from the piercing cold which they experience in the northern parts of the empire, the Chinese have devised subterraneous furnaces, placed outside the houses in excavations made on purpose. Tubes go branching off from these furnaces in every direction, under the bricks of the floors, and under a kind of platforms or estrades on which the Chinese sleep. They even pass through the walls, which divide the different rooms, so that the heat diffused by these tubes produces in the apartments the temperature desired. The fire is kept up night and day in the outer stove or furnace, without the smallest danger to the buildings, because a coat of bricks closely confines that destructive element, and opposes its disastrous effects. If the apartments be spacious and numerous, an increased number of stoves and tubes always insure the same result.

"It cannot be denied that this is an invention honourable to Chinese industry; and certainly it is no small advantage, in a severe climate, to enjoy in the midst of winter's cold an agreeable heat diffused through all the apartments. It is in those places especially, where these outer stoves are

wanting, and where there is a necessity of having recourse to the brasiers of charcoal, that the value of this invention is the most sensibly felt." *Vol. ii. p. 65.*

INTERRING THE DEAD.

"I REMARKED a singular usage relative to the dead, whose coffins are deposited in any field indiscriminately, and upon the surface of the earth. Those who can afford it, build a little square wall round the coffin, equal to it in height, over which a small roof is erected, covered with tiles; others lay straw and mats over it; while the lower class of people content themselves with laying merely a stratum of turf over the coffin, and leave it in that situation. We have passed by a great many graves of this kind during the two last days.

"As the Chinese show a high degree of reverence for the dead, this mode of treating them, which appears so indecent, astonished me much. I inquired the reason, and was told that the land was so low, that the dead bodies could not be interred without lying in the water; an idea which the Chinese cannot bear, because they are persuaded that the deceased love a dry abode. After some time has elapsed, the coffins that have been thus left in the open fields are burnt with the bodies they contain; and the ashes are carefully collected, and put into covered urns, which are afterwards half buried in the earth. I saw several urns thus deposited by the road side.

"This was the first time I had ever heard that the practice of burning the dead and collecting their ashes is customary in China, as it was among the ancient Greeks and Romans. I do not at least remember that in all I formerly read concerning China any thing like it is mentioned; nor had I ever heard of any thing of the kind in the thirty-six years I had been personally acquainted with the country; a space of time during which I frequently made inquiries of men of letters and information concerning every thing relative to the history, manners, and peculiarities of their native land. This fact is a convincing proof that there are very few Chinese who have a general knowledge of the whole empire, or who are acquainted with the customs of the provinces they do not inhabit." *Vol. ii. p. 187.*

AGRI-

AGRICULTURE.

"IN the province of *Tché-kiang*, where we now are, all the arable land is regularly sown in squares, like a draught-board, several grains of corn being put into each hole. This arrangement renders the aspect of the fields very pleasing, especially now that the corn is a foot high, and exhibits the most promising marks of an abundant crop.

"Thus do the Chinese prove, in every part of the empire, that they are no way inferior to the Europeans in the art of agriculture, and they have at the same time the advantage of being able to boast that they carried that art to the perfection at which it is now arrived, whole centuries ago, while it is only within these few years that any nation among us has thought of improving ancient methods, and even that with little success, because the farmers, slaves to habit and to the example of their forefathers, adhere with obstinacy to the old routine. In vain is it demonstrated to them that certain changes are advantageous, either in the practice of agriculture or in the treatment of cattle. This is a thing of which they cannot be persuaded." *Vol. ii. p. 265.*

IV. *Asiatic Researches*; or, Transactions of the Society instituted in Bengal, for inquiring into the History and Antiquities, the Arts, Sciences, and Literature of Asia. Vols. III. and IV. * 8vo. pp. 1057. 1l. 1s. *Vernor and Hood.*

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EXTRACTS.

ON THE ANDAMAN ISLANDS.

"THE Andaman islands are situated on the eastern side of the bay of Bengal*, extending from north latitude $10^{\circ} 32'$ to $13^{\circ} 40'$. Their longitude is from $95^{\circ} 6'$ to $92^{\circ} 55'$ east of Greenwich. The Great Andaman, or that portion of the land hitherto so called,

* "It is perhaps a wonder, that islands so extensive, and lying in the track of so many ships, should have been, till of late years, so little known; that while the countries by which they are almost encircled, have been increasing in population and wealth, having been from time immemorial in a state of tolerable civilization, these islands should have remained in a state of nature, and their inhabitants plunged in the grossest ignorance and barbarity.

"The wild appearance of the country, and the untractable and ferocious disposition of the natives, have been the causes, probably, which have deterred navigators from frequenting them; and they have justly dreaded a shipwreck at the Andamans more than the danger of foundering in the ocean; for although it is highly probable, that in the course of time many vessels have been wrecked upon their coasts, an instance does not occur of any of the crews being saved, or of a single person returning to give any account of such a disaster."

is about one hundred and forty British miles in length, but not more than twenty in the broadest part. Its coasts are indented by several deep bays, affording excellent harbours, and it is intersected by many vast inlets and creeks, one of which has been found to run quite through, and is navigable for small vessels. The Little Andaman is the most southerly of the two, and lies within thirty leagues of the island Carnicobar. Its length is 18 miles by 17 in breadth, being more compact, but does not afford any harbour, although tolerable anchorage is found near its shores. The former is surrounded by a great number of smaller islands." P. 401.

"The Andaman islands are inhabited by a race of men the least civilized, perhaps, in the world; being nearer to a state of nature than any people we read of. Their colour is of the darkest hue, their stature in general small, and their aspect uncouth. Their limbs are ill-formed and slender, their bellies prominent, and, like

the Africans, they have woolly heads*, thick lips, and flat noses. They go quite naked, the women wearing only at times a kind of tassel, or fringe, round the middle; which is intended merely for ornament, as they do not betray any bashfulness when seen without it. The men are cunning, crafty, and revengeful; and frequently express their aversion to strangers, in a loud and threatening tone of voice, exhibiting various signs of defiance, and expressing their contempt by the most indecent gestures. At other times they appear quiet and docile, with the most insidious intent. They will affect to enter into a friendly conference, when after receiving with a show of humility whatever articles may be presented to them, they set up a shout, and discharge their arrows at the donors. On the appearance of a vessel or boat, they frequently lie in ambush among the trees, and send one of their gang, who is generally the oldest of them, to the water's edge, to endeavour by friendly signs to allure the

* "In this respect they differ from all the various tribes inhabiting the continent of Asia, or its islands. A story is somewhere told of a ship full of African slaves, of both sexes, having been cast away at the Andamans; and that having put to death their masters and the ship's crew, they spread themselves over, and peopled the country. This story does not appear to have been well authenticated, nor have I ever met with the particular author who relates it. They have been asserted by some to be cannibals, and by others (vide Captain Hamilton's Voyage, and all the geographical dictionaries) to be a harmless and inoffensive people, living chiefly on rice and vegetables. That they are cannibals has never been fully proved, although from their cruel and sanguinary disposition, great voracity, and cunning modes of lying in ambush, there is reason to suspect, that in attacking strangers they are frequently impelled by hunger, as they invariably put to death the unfortunate victims who fall into their hands. No positive instance, however, has been known of their eating the flesh of their enemies; although the bodies of some whom they have killed, have been found mangled and torn. It would be difficult to account for their unremitting hostility to strangers, without ascribing this as the cause, unless the story of their origin, as above mentioned, should be true; in which case they might probably retain a tradition of having once been in a state of slavery. This in some degree would account for the rancour and enmity they show; and they would naturally wage perpetual war with those whom they might suspect were come to invade their country, or enslave them again.

"It would appear that these islands were known to the ancients (see Major Rennel's Memoirs, introduction, page xxxix). They are mentioned, I believe, by Marco Polo; and in the ancient account of India and China, by two Mahomedan travellers, who went to those parts in the ninth century (translated from the Arabic by Eusebius Renaudot), may be seen the following curious account: 'Beyond these two islands (Nejabalus, probably Nicobars) lies the sea of Andaman; the people on this coast eat human flesh quite raw; their complexion is black, their hair frizzled, their countenance and eyes frightful; their feet are very large and almost a cubit in length, and they go quite naked. They have no embarkations; if they had, they would devour all the passengers they could lay hands on,' &c."

strangers

strangers on shore. Should the crew venture to land without arms, they instantly rush out from their lurking-places, and attack them. In these skirmishes they display much resolution, and will sometimes plunge into the water to seize the boat; and they have been known even to discharge their arrows while in the act of swimming. Their mode of life is degrading to human nature, and, like brutes, their whole time is spent in search of food. They have yet made no attempts to cultivate their lands, but live entirely upon what they can pick up, or kill. In the morning they rub their skins with mud, or wallow in it like buffaloes, to prevent the annoyance of insects, and daub their woolly heads with red ochre, or cinabar. Thus attired, they walk forth to their different occupations. The women bear the greatest part of the drudgery in collecting food, repairing to the reefs at the recess of the tide, to pick up shell-fish, while the men are hunting in the woods, or wading in the water to shoot fish with their bows and arrows. They are very dexterous at this extraordinary mode of fishing, which they practise also at night, by the light of a torch. In their excursions through the woods, a wild hog sometimes rewards their toil, and affords them a more ample repast. They broil their meat or fish over a kind of grid, made of bamboos; but use no salt, or any other seasoning.

"The Andamaners display at times much colloquial vivacity, and are fond of singing and dancing; in which amusements the women equally participate. Their language is rather smooth than guttural; and their melodies are in the nature of recitative and chorus, not unpleasing. In dancing they may be said to have improved on the strange republican dance asserted by Voltaire to have been exhibited in England: '*Ou dansant à la ronde, chacun donne des coups de pieds à son voisin, et en reçoit autant.*' The Andamaners likewise dance in a ring, each alternately kicking and flapping his own breech, *ad libitum*. Their salutation is performed by lifting up a leg, and smacking with their hand the lower part of the thigh.

"Their dwellings are the most wretched hovels imaginable. An Andaman hut may be considered the

rudest and most imperfect attempt of the human race to procure shelter from the weather, and answers to the idea given by Vitruvius, of the buildings erected by the earliest inhabitants of the earth. Three or four sticks are planted in the ground, and fastened together at the top, in the form of a cone, over which a kind of thatch is formed with the branches and leaves of trees. An opening is left on one side, just large enough to creep into; and the ground beneath is strewn with dried leaves, upon which they lie. In these huts are frequently found the skulls of wild hogs, suspended to the roofs.

"Their canoes are hollowed out of the trunks of trees by means of fire and instruments of stone, having no iron in use amongst them, except such utensils as they have procured from the Europeans and sailors who have lately visited these islands; or from the wrecks of vessels formerly stranded on their coasts. They use also rafts, made of bamboos, to transport themselves across their harbours, or from one island to another. Their arms have already been mentioned in part; I need only add that their bows are remarkably long, and of an uncommon form; their arrows are headed with fish-bones, or the tusks of wild hogs; sometimes merely with a sharp bit of wood, hardened in the fire, but these are sufficiently destructive. They use also a kind of shield; and one or two other weapons have been seen amongst them. Of their implements for fishing, and other purposes, little can be said. Hand-nets of different sizes are used in catching the small fry, and a kind of wicker basket, which they carry on their backs, serves to deposit whatever articles of food they can pick up. A few specimens of pottery-ware have been seen in these islands.

"The climate of the Andaman islands is rather milder than in Bengal. The prevailing winds are the south-west and north-east monsoons, the former commencing in May, and bringing in the rains; which continue to fall with equal, if not greater violence till November. At this time the north-east winds begin to blow, accompanied likewise by showers, but giving place to fair and pleasant weather during the rest of the year." P. 405.

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TO AN AGED PARENT, ON SEEING
HIM SHED TEARS.

When men once reach their autumn,
sickly joys
Fall off apace, as yellow leaves from
trees,
At ev'ry little breath Misfortune blows.
YOUNG.

"FOND parent, whom on earth I
love most dear,
Why steals that sigh of sadness from
thy breast?
I too do grieve to see thee sore op-
press'd,
Whilst down thy care-worn cheek
steals many a tear!
Thou weep'st, my father!—the sad
cause I guess;
Long hast thou journey'd o'er life's
mazy wild,
A sorrowing traveller, by false hope
beguil'd,
And few there be who pity thy dis-
tress;
Nor Plenty on thy cot hath ever
smil'd.
Robb'd of the blissful partner of each
hour,
All thy self-promis'd joys, alas! are
fled;
On thee life's wintry storms begin to
low'r,
And thou dost bend. So fades the
summer flow'r
At winter's keen approach, and
droops its feeble head." P. 117.
D SONG

SONG XLV.

THE BEGGAR GIRL.

"A POOR helpless wand'rer, the
wide world before me,
When the harsh din of war forc'd a
parent to roam,
With no friend, save kind Heaven, to
protect and watch o'er me,
I a child of Affliction was robb'd of
a home;
And thus with a sigh I accosted each
stranger—
'O, look with compassion on poor
orphan Bels!
'Your mite may relieve her from each
threat'ning danger,
'And the soft tear of pity can sooth
her distress.'

"To the rich, by whom Virtue's too
often neglected,
I tell my sad story, and crave for
relief;
But Wealth seldom feels for a wretch
unprotected—
'Tis Poverty only partakes of her
grief.
Ah! little they think that the thou-
sands they squander
On the play-things of folly and
fripp'ries of dress,
Would relieve the keen wants of the
wretched who wander,
While the soft tear of pity would
sooth their distress!

"Though bereft of each comfort, poor
Bels will not languish;
Since short is life's journey, 'tis
vain to lament;
And he who still marks the deep sigh
of keen anguish,
Hath plac'd in his bosom the jewel
content.
Then, ye wealthy to-day, think, ah!
think, ere to-morrow
The frowns of Misfortune upon you
may press,
And turn not away from a poor or-
phan's sorrow,
When the soft tear of pity can sooth
her distress."

P. 216.

VI. *Public Spirit*: a lyric Poem;
occasioned by the exemplary Zeal,
Resolution, and Decorum, uni-
formly manifested by the Yeoman-
ry Corps of Ireland, in the sacred
Cause of their King and Country.

To which are prefixed, an Address
the Right Hon. Thomas Pelham;
and Observations on the Irregular
Ode. Second Edit. 8vo. pp. 68.
(Not fold.) Dublin.

EXTRACTS.

ON THE IRREGULAR ODE.

"THAT the irregular ode is suf-
ceptible of exquisite beauty,
and has, besides, appropriate recom-
mendations, living and conclusive
testimony avers. Objections, never-
theless, important at least in the con-
sequence of those that have urged
them, appear against it. By inquiring
into the validity of these, its true ca-
pacity may perhaps be found; and in
that its value.

"Johnson, admiring the equability
of the couplet, and being, conse-
quently, at variance with the change-
ful freedom of blank metre and lyrical
numbers, states, in his animadversions
on the Poems of Prior, which are
written in unequal measures, that
'the essence of verse is order and con-
'sonance'." P. 13.

"As men are seldom disposed to
imagine they have been studious in
vain, very singular opinions, which
are generally more a-kin to affectation,
the mimic of understanding, than to
understanding itself, have rarely pro-
duced much credit to their authors.
Yet, without referring to the influence
of pride, it is by no means wonderful
that such opinions should find an intro-
duction into the world, not only in
consequence of the treachery of judg-
ment, but because unnumbered cir-
cumstances concur to render men as
distinguishable by variety of taste as of
features. They have their characters
as well, perhaps, from constitution, as
from education and experience. Sen-
sibility is not equally alive in every
informed mind, nor judgment equally
energetic. To all authors circum-
stances frequently occur, to evince the
danger of an implicit reliance on the
integrity of opinion. How often,
during the hours of composition, have
ideas been received as delightful, which
were destined to be suddenly and con-
temptuously dismissed! How often, in
consequence of perfected deliberation,
have those very ideas been recalled
and adopted!

"Such facts enforce the necessity of
circum-

circumspection; nor will the truly wise, who are ever modest, dissent from received opinions but with all the reserve of prudence. They know it is more likely that error may attach to the mind of an individual, than to a community of minds; and that in all questions of taste, men, who are too well informed to take opinions upon trust, will refer to their own experience and reason, and probably protest against the pride of the critic, who dogmatically protests against the judgment of the public.

"Although the most ancient, the lyric is generally allowed to be the most impassioned, most rapturous, and most elevated mode of poetry, not excepting the epic itself. Of these particulars of its character, the oldest compositions, those of the Psalmist especially, afford the most interesting and sublime examples. We are, besides, to consider it as it is capable of conforming to the changeful purposes of the poet; in which respect it is a powerful, if not infallible objection to the maxim, which supposes, that the form of composition suitable to every occasion can suit no occasion well. By consequence, it is not more perfect when expressive of the sublimity and impetuosity of Pindar, than when it complies with the dignified simplicity and graceful courtliness of Horace; softens to the gentle purposes of Sappho; or accommodates the hilarity and ease of Anacreon. Such being its capacity, a recollection of its effects might well induce the Macedonian conqueror to check the rage of spoliation, and hold sacred the mansion which had been inhabited by the Theban bard. But who could conceive it to have been possible, did not the fact exist, that an able advocate of *taste*, a critic of deserved celebrity, the illustrious Montesquieu himself, could have aspersed the very species of poetic composition, which, through a succession of ages, had remarkably contributed to forward, refine, and enrich taste, as the tuneful rapture of

folly*? His opinion, however, was only heard, lyric poetry exists to testify that nothing powerful, because nothing true, can be advanced in support of error." P. 14.

"Rhyme, says Milton, and Johnson confesses he *says truly*, is no necessary adjunct or true ornament of poetry†. Certainty is to opinion what lustre is to a gem, its abiding recommendation; and the certainty of this opinion, the poet, in an unimpaired and unequivocal manner, has proved by extensive practice. But what is the inference which must arise from the confession of a critic, who, having repeatedly taught us that rhyme is '*essential to verse*,' permits us now to conclude, that it is *unnecessary* to poetry? If rhyme be not necessary to poetry, it cannot be necessary to verse; since the sole purpose of verse is the embellishment of poetry. By consequence, the critic has defeated himself, whether consonance be considered as unessential to poetry, or as entering into the '*essence of verse*.'—But who is the man that has at all times his Minerva to direct him?

"Thus compelled, by the irresistible evidence of Milton, to relinquish rhyme, the critic, in the warmth of his feelings, seems disposed to surrender verse likewise; expressing a doubt whether '*of poetry, considered as a mental operation, verse is a necessary adjunct*†.

"It is true, poetry might subsist independently of verse; but it is as true, that, so detached, it would subsist with abated respectability. Virtue, every man knows, is separable from reason; but, as the dignity and joy of reason cannot, without the aid of virtue, be perfected and truly illustrated, virtue is therefore its necessary associate. Such, in these respects, as virtue is to reason, to poetry is verse; and, that it is, all languages maintain; for all languages, as the critic confesses, have discriminated poetry by the music of metre.

"He says, and much it is to be re-

* "It is almost impossible to conceive, that he could have studied, without being alive to the beauties, not only of the ancient, but of some modern lyrics. Amongst the latter, he could not surely have overlooked the tender Petrarch, whose favourite Vauxcluse Voltaire commemorates in consideration of its former inhabitant:

'Lieux où dans ces beaux jours,
'Petrarch suspiroit ses vers et son amour.'

† "Vid. Preface to *Paradise Lost*."

D a

† "Life of Milton."

gretted,

gretted, that in the most violent attachment to regularity and rhyme, or the most incautious moments of composition, he should have been betrayed to say, that 'what reason could urge in defence of blank verse had been confuted by the ear*.' Perhaps a simple statement of this assertion is sufficient, since it is only less idle to argue in disproof of obvious fallacy, than to publish the fallacy itself. We shall, however, venture to remark, that as argument can be reasonable only in being just, such as reason has advanced in defence of blank metre can never be reasonably overcome. How then shall they be confuted?—By the ear!—Impossible! In a question that refers to a purely mental operation, we cannot admit an appeal from mind to matter; from the intellect to the animal; from the supreme judging faculty to a merely mechanical organ. Even of music, properly so called, the ear is not the judge. This opinion is confirmed by the unanimous consent of the ancients†; who, far from imputing the wonders said to have been operated by music, merely to its effect on the sense of hearing, ascribe them immediately to its influence on the passions, or judging faculty of the soul. If then the ear is not judiciary in the science of mere sound, how shall it be supposed capable of judging of metrical composition, from which sentiment is inseparable? The most, therefore, that can be advanced on the subject is, that the ear, as menial to the soul, mechanically receives and transmits sounds; of the pleasure and propriety of which the soul is the critic. To describe the ear as acting in a higher function, would be as erroneous as to impute the science by which music is elicited from an instrument to the instrument itself: it would be to deny to the soul, when immediately interested, a right of judging for herself, and the use of that power of reflection by which she determines, that the pleasure of what is called the melody of verse is the effect of a peculiar arrangement of charming language. Were not these observations true, listening idiocy, whose auditory organs

are perfect, might be said to be in the enjoyment of uttered verification; while, on the other hand, the mind which is most susceptible of the charm of numbers, would remain ignorant of their effect but when they were audibly recited. Thus impossible it appears, that what reason could urge in defence of blank metre has been confuted by the ear." P. 19.

BRITAIN.

"NOR France shall blot thy stainless name,
Nor all her craft contract thy boundless fame!
For what is she? A ruler or a slave?
A fell assassin, or a victor brave?
A gentle Solon, or a tyrant blind,
That at her footstool would enchain mankind?
A form immortal, or a living bust,
Doom'd, as her doctrines tell, to end in dust?
What though she boasts her kings‡;
those kings deplore
The rule of hundreds§, rul'd by millions more||,
Who know that e'en the felon in his heart,
Still of the Sovereign People lives a part!
What though to Freedom she inscribes a throne,
'Tis Freedom only by her minions known,
Who boast of rights, and hail the yawning grave,
Form'd by her toil, for nations just and brave!
Who then shall bend, ev'n while her haughty nod
Explains a wish to snatch his pow'r from God!
To utter thunders; give to lightnings birth!
And in the tempest shake affrighted earth?" P. 57.

VII. *Biographical Memoirs of the French Revolution.* By JOHN ADOLPHUS, F.S.A. 2 vol. 8vo. pp. 1015. 16s. Cadell and Davies.

* "Life of Milton.

† "Vid. Malcom's Treatise on Music, c. xiv. and Græc. Mus. Dic. art. Musique.

‡ "The Executive Directory."

§ "The People."

§ "The Council of Five Hundred."

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EXTRACT FROM THE PREFACE.

"THE plan of this work is to sketch the lives of the principal actors in the French revolution, and to trace the influence of individuals in producing events which have filled the world with astonishment, and for which historical parallels are sought in vain. It is also no less the object of these memoirs to show the nature, spirit, and tendency of those principles which contributed to the success of sanguine innovators, who, under a pretence of ameliorating the condition of mankind, meditated the subversion of social order.

"I was first induced to undertake this work from observing the general system of misrepresentation which has prevailed in describing the characters of those who have acted conspicuous parts in the French revolution. Writers, friendly to the cause, have laboured to justify the promoters of it, not by demonstrating the purity or propriety of their views, but by an unlimited censure of their opponents. Succeeding factions have adopted the same line of conduct towards their predecessors. Language and invention have been exhausted in terms of abuse and modes of crimination.

"On the other hand, some have assumed the task of being their own biographers; and, with a shameless disregard of truth and decency, have lavished on themselves and on their co-operators all the eulogies which could be claimed by wisdom, virtue, disinterestedness, and pure patriotism.

"From such publications real information can rarely be derived; if the narrators have afforded means of tracing the progress of their own conduct from year to year, they have seldom presented true motives of action, or faithfully displayed their ultimate views. The biographical works which have appeared in the course of the French revolution are, therefore, not to be implicitly depended on, but can only obtain a partial credit, by a comparison with cotemporary narratives, and with the history of the times.

"And yet it is from these sources that most of the writers who have defended the revolution have drawn their materials, implicitly crediting all the unjust aspersions which the enemies of monarchy have cast on the King and Queen, and on their adherents, and relying on the interested and partial accounts which the regicides have given of their own conduct and party. They have also frequently exaggerated what they found; and as they seldom precisely quote their authorities, they have imposed on many, whom want of leisure, or facility of disposition, have prevented from pursuing the proper means of detection.

"I have made it my business faithfully and diligently to examine both sides of the question; to select, combine, and compare the discordant accounts of the same transaction; to weigh the motives which various parties have assigned for their own conduct, and that of their opponents; and to draw such probable results as were warranted by circumstances and authorities.

"To avoid every imputation of intended error, I have made it an inviolable rule to advance no assertion for which I have not produced my authorities. Without this precaution my work would have had no claim to a different estimation from those political romances, which are daily obtruded on the world, under the names of history and biography." P. v.

EX.

EXTRACTS.

PERSON, &c. OF LOUIS XVI.

"A FEMALE author, who began a pretended history of the revolution, has described the King as sufficiently ugly to disgust his consort, and almost excuse those excesses, which she so copiously and falsely attributes to the Queen." The correctness of her report might be fairly questioned from the tenor of her whole performance, which is a mere rhapsody of libellous declamations, in which the facts are admitted without examination, and put together without consistency; but a better refutation arises from the reports of those who well knew the late King, and from the portraits of him published under the best authorities. The following description of him, by M. Montjoye, I have every reason to think is in general correct: 'Louis was endowed with a good constitution, and with an extraordinary share of corporeal strength. His height was five feet five inches f. He carried his head with dignity. His forehead was large, and his features strongly marked; he had rather a downcast, though a steady look. His eyes were blue and large; he had full cheeks, a well-proportioned mouth, and regular teeth; his lips were somewhat thick, like those of most of the Bourbons, and his skin remarkably white. In the latter years of his life he grew rather corpulent; but this embonpoint became him, and gave to his gait a degree of firmness, equally remote from awkwardness and negligence. Though naturally lively, he seldom laughed aloud; and those who were not admitted on a footing of familiarity, thought him serious and reserved. Even at the time when he addicted himself to violent exercise, which his constitution rendered necessary, he was always sober. Till his accession to the throne he drank nothing but water; he afterwards mixed it, but never drank wine alone, except now and then, after meals, when he sopped a bit of bread in foreign wine.' I have been more particular in stating these facts, because amongst the vices with which slander sullied the name and memory of this unfortunate prince,

gluttony and the love of drinking stand conspicuous. Even Dumouriez, the pretended royalist, asserts that the corrupters of his youth, in order to degrade his character, 'inspired him with *fastidious vices*, such as anger and the love of wine.' On the former point Dumouriez, with his usual disregard of truth and consistency, confutes himself in the very same volume, where he uses the following expressions: 'The world is much deceived in respect to the character of this prince, who has been described as a violent and choleric man, who swore frequently, and was accustomed to treat his ministers with much roughness. Dumouriez, on the contrary, ought to do him justice by observing, that during the three months he was accustomed to see him, and that too in very difficult situations, he always found him polite, mild, affable, and very patient.' With respect to the love of wine, which Dumouriez is not ashamed to impute to him, without vouching a single instance in support of it, and which has been alleged against the King by so many shameless libellers, till a general belief of it has prevailed; it is so totally destitute of foundation, so absolutely void of sanction from those authors who either knew the King or had any regard for veracity, that little hesitation is necessary in placing this among those efforts of calumny, by which the parasites of the *Palais Royal* endeavoured to assimilate the character of the virtuous monarch with that of the Duke of Orleans." *Vol. i. p. 7.*

STATE OF THE PRISONS DURING THE TYRANNY OF ROBESPIERRE.

"THE following extract from Montgaillard † gives an account of the general situation of the prisoners, which cannot be perused without sentiments of abhorrence. 'For these four months the prisoners have been forbid all communication with mankind. They experience the most barbarous treatment, and the coarse food now allowed, and the privation of which is often threatened, is examined by commissioners from the committee of public safety, and thrown in through openings

* "Mrs. Wolfsoncraft's History of the Revolution, p. 133."

† "French measure—equal to upwards of five feet ten inches English."

‡ "Suite de l'Etat de la France, p. 67."

which are afterwards carefully shut. Women with child have died in the English convent, now a prison in the *rue des Fosses St. Victor*, in the Luxembourg, and in the *grand Carmes*, for want of the relief necessary in their condition. *'Tis so much trouble saved to the executioner*, said Billaud Varennes, when he was asked to order a physician for the prisons. In one single chamber forty persons are confined. Many have petitioned the committee of public safety and the public accuser of the revolutionary tribunal to send them to the scaffold. Couthon wrote the following answer on one of these petitions: *Woman (citoyenne), you have not yet been long enough in a situation that makes you wish for death.*

"Their sources of consolation were few, and subject to many interruptions. In one prison they used to meet in the evening in a common-room, and sit at a long table; the ladies amused themselves with works appropriate to their sex; every one brought a light, some of the gentlemen read, some painted, but a profound silence was usually observed. After supper, till nine o'clock, they amused themselves with the recitation of poetry, composed by the prisoners, with songs and music. The increase of numbers, additional severities, and the daily murder of some of their companions, occasionally embittered their meetings; yet they still continued to amuse themselves, in spite of privations, dangers, and terrors. Frequent repetition rendered them almost indifferent even to the loss of their companions. A person who had been fifteen months confined in the Conciergerie, informed Major Tench, that during that time he saw one hundred and sixty-seven persons go out of his room to the guillotine. He described almost all these victims as so conscious of their innocence, and so reconciled to their fate, that nothing but resignation, indifference, and levity prevailed throughout the prison. It was customary to warn on the preceding evening those who were to be tried the next day; and by a regulation made among themselves, the party to be tried gave a supper on that night to the whole room; and if he was spared for the present and remanded back, he was in return treated with a dinner at their joint expense. The dinner entertainments

were few indeed; but the suppers extremely frequent.

"In another prison, where the confinement was closer, they amused themselves at midnight by the light of one single taper, with a mock representation of the revolutionary tribunal; some represented judges, some the jury; they had a public accuser; the culprits were found guilty of course, and guillotined by a contrivance of one of their beds. The public accuser himself was at last deposed, tried, and executed; he rose from the dead, related the horrible punishments which he suffered in the other world, and which awaited the judges and jurors. Those *au secret* (in close confinement) contrived to hold a club by a circuitous communication from cell to cell, finding means, notwithstanding the thickness of the walls, to be heard from one dungeon to the other. The disclosure of news was forbid, but now and then a more humane gaoler or guard would in a whisper communicate some public event, the knowledge of which might be supposed agreeable to his hearers: this was reported again with caution, in ambiguous terms, such as, *I dreamt so and so*; and when it was so public that it might be mentioned without suspicion, they celebrated it in poetic compositions, songs, &c. Such were, the re-conquest of Toulon, the successes of the armies in general, and the feast in honour of the Supreme Being, from which the prisoners formed the most flattering hopes.

"When they retired to their cells, by virtue of the compulsory edict for their separation, their miseries were not terminated; the only cries in the streets which were permitted near the walls, were those calculated to inspire horror. In the night a fiend of a woman, with a piercing voice, would cry, 'A list of the fifty or threescore persons who drew prizes to-day in the lottery of the guillotine.' If the butchery had been less numerous, she would say, 'A list of the twenty or five-and-twenty aristocrats who were guillotined to-day; I hope the number will be greater to-morrow.' Sometimes in the middle of the night the bell was rung, and all the prisoners summoned to the yard, where administrators, by torch-light, attended by guards, waited with a list of persons to be carried in carts to other prisons for deten-

detention, or to the Conciergerie, till they should be tried. These transfers were effected with the utmost brutality; age, sex, or situation procured no compassion. A lady near her time of lying-in, terrified by the bell, from her ignorance of the cause of its ringing, was seized with the pangs of child-birth. She was compelled to descend to the yard; her name was on the list; in vain she entreated and remonstrated; two soldiers dragged her towards the cart, till her increasing agonies at length compelled them to place her in the first room they could find, where she was prematurely delivered without attendance or assistance.

"These were not the only means contrived to 'murder sleep.' By a diabolical mockery of justice, the acts of accusation were delivered late in the night before the day of trial. A fellow hawked them about the prison with a loud voice, calling them in barbarous pleasantries, the *Evening Post*. This noise disturbed all the prisoners, and made some hundreds partake of the misery intended, perhaps, for only ten or a dozen. Those to whom they were delivered sometimes could not read them for want of light, and if they could, it would have availed them but little; they were generally the same in substance; the crime alleged and the witnesses the same. They were made out by the inferior agents of Fouquier Tainville, written in a hand scarcely legible, and misspelled. The petulance of these wretches often indicated the fate of the person to be accused by some jocular expression, as, *Let us send this woman to her beloved spouse*; and at the top of one of the acts of accusation was written, *A head to be chopped off without mercy*. The change of the abode of prisoners, made capriciously and unrecorded, often rendered the delivery

of these acts matter of difficulty; but the impatience of the messengers, and the promptitude of the revolutionary system, obviated delay. If the person designated was not to be found, some one whose name approached to his in sound, or who had had some relation or connexion with him, supplied his place*. It was vain to remonstrate, the answer was ready; 'We were ordered to take ten, twelve, or fifteen persons from this house, and will not go away without our number; you may as well take this act of accusation as not, for you certainly must have one sooner or later.'

"Towards the latter end of July 1794, every thing indicated that greater severities and a more rapid evacuation of the prisons was in contemplation. The reports of conspiracies were more frequent, the spies more numerous, the turnkeys more ferocious. The prisoners were almost entirely prevented from communicating with each other. During the short period they were permitted to take the air in the yard, men employed on purpose traversed it diagonally; and if they saw two or three conversing, rudely separated them, asking if they were forming a conspiracy?

"The revolution of the 28th of July, though not immediately communicated to them in direct terms, produced effects perceptibly beneficial. While the issue of the contest between Robespierre and his opponents was uncertain, the prisoners were obliged to separate at an earlier hour than usual, and were carefully locked up. When the contest was decided, the jailors were in doubt whether the system of terror would not still be continued. They took great pains to conceal the transactions without. Alarm and terror were inspired by the ringing of the tocsin

* "Courlet Vermantois was son of a counsellor of parliament at Dijon, and afterwards officer in the army. He fell a victim to the irregular proceedings of the revolutionary tribunal a day before the death of Robespierre. He was a prisoner in the prison *Dupleffis*; when in one of Fouquier Tainville's lists, the name of Vermantois, canon of Chartres, was included; no person of that name being found but himself, he was taken; and in spite of his remonstrances that he was a soldier, and not a priest, and knew nothing of the facts alleged in the act of accusation, he was condemned by that execrable court, and executed the 27th July 1794. Such mistakes were not uncommon. A lady of the name of Maillet was brought before the tribunal with an act of accusation meant for a person of the name of *Maille*. She informed the judges of the fact; but the public accuser told her it was of no consequence, she would have been brought to the scaffold very shortly at any rate; that one day was as good as another: the jury declared themselves sufficiently instructed, and the woman was executed!"

and

and the firing of guns. The news was diversely communicated. In one prison they heard it through the intrepidity of a boy who hawked papers about the streets; he approached the walls, crying with a loud voice, 'The glorious arrestation and execution of Catherine Robespierre and his accomplices:' when the guard attempted to drive him away, he remonstrated furdily, that there were many good citizens in custody who would be glad to hear the news, and they should hear it. The words of the hawker were caught up by some who contrived to communicate them, and the transport soon became general. In another gaol, one of the guards, who was employed to break the knots of prisoners assembled in the yard, contrived, as he was walking, to utter a word or two now and then which communicated the intelligence; and the hearers were diligent in making it known to their comrades. The turnkey was so enraged at the discovery of this fact, that he would not suffer the guards to come into the prison, but employed dogs in their stead*.

"The reign of these tyrants, however, drew towards an end. The Convention declared that they intended to abolish the system of terror; the gaolers, feeling that their power was declining, and dreading the punishment due to their past barbarity, paid court to the prisoners by voluntarily relaxing many of their severities, and permitting the introduction of victuals, clothes, letters, and even visitors. Then came to light the numerous devices invented by ingenious affection to elude the severity of the law and the vigilance of the turnkeys. Sometimes in the inside of a fowl, or in a bundle of asparagus, while victuals were permitted to be sent; sometimes in the folds, or even the hems of clean linen, a dexterous hand contrived to convey the effusion of a tender and faithful heart. In one of the prisons a dog daily rushed in to kiss the hand of his confined master, and carried under his collar the affectionate remembrances of an anxious wife. Sometimes pieces of paper, dirty, and apparently unimportant, when joined together, contained an interesting diary, tender condolences, or affectionate protestations. Soon these efforts of courageous tenderness were rewarded by the

examination of warrants and discharge of prisoners, which restored happiness to thousands. What, upon inspection, were the crimes which authorized a confinement so rigorous, a death so tragical? Some of the prisoners *had been* nobles, some *had been* priests, bankers, farmers-general; some were rich, some learned, some brave; these were all *aristocrats*. Some had given offence to the tyrant or his satraps; these were *suspected*; and some were confined without cause and without warrant." Vol. i. p. 195.

PERSON, MANNERS, AND CHARACTER OF MIRABEAU.

"MIRABEAU's features were harsh, and his person clumsy. His head, which was uncommonly large, seemed to be wedged in between his enormous shoulders, and his body and limbs formed a thick unshaped mass. Yet when he applied his talents to seduction, he was more successful than many others, whose personal attractions seem much greater. After the facts contained in the preceding narrative, it is unnecessary to descant on his character as son and husband. He is said to have been extremely choleric, and even brutal in the regulation of his family, frequently descending to the cowardly meanness of striking his own servants. As an author he derived much of his success from his art in always writing on the topic which created the greatest share of momentary interest. He was not diligent in the selection of materials, frequently relying on the labours of his friends, as Mauvillon and Chamfort, and often adopting without reserve as much as suited his subject, from the works of other authors, either ancient or cotemporary. What he received and what he selected he made his own by the force of his genius, the propriety of his arrangement, the beauties of his style, and the elegance of his ornaments. He had an exalted opinion of his own abilities, relied on the favourable judgment of posterity, and disdained his cotemporaries. 'No Bankruptcy,' he says in a letter to Mauvillon, 'is the production of Messrs. Clavière and Brissot de Warville. Your German critics must be miserable tasters, to mistake the brewings of these gentry for my wine.' His

* "One of these dogs was ludicrously called Robespierre."

voice was forcible, loud, and commanding, except when he was agitated by passion; then it occasionally assumed the depth and compass of Stentor, and sometimes by a sudden transition was brought to resemble the treble string of a violin squeaking under the bow. He had great rhetorical talents, and could employ them on sudden emergencies, and in all directions. This, in popular assemblies, rendered him almost irresistible. He never despaired of turning the debate. His victories were always splendid, his defeats never ignominious; he never appeared vanquished, and no man could assume a triumph over him. His talents for repartee, joined to his powers of reasoning, enabled him with equal facility to disconcert his opponents with sarcasm, or refute them by force of argument, while the greatness of his abilities and his sudden command of them enabled him, if any of his coadjutors approached him, so as to be thought competitors, by a little effort to throw them back to their original and natural distance. To appreciate Mirabeau as a politician, it will be more proper to survey the end than the earlier part of his career. In his struggle for power, he disgraced himself by many violences and excesses, for which a prison or a scaffold would have been the deserved punishment. When he had attained the object of his ambition, when wealth, respect, and nobility * became his own, he was desirous to tread back the steps he had taken, and to establish a more splendid reputation, as well as a more permanent authority. Awake from the dream of popular frenzy and recovered from the delusions of illuminism, he might have rendered the most conspicuous and essential services to his country, and to the world. From his decease we may date the rapid declension of royalty, and the audacious display of disorganizing politics pursued by the demagogues of France." *P. 137.*

VIII. *A Plan*, preceded by a short Review of the Fine Arts, to pre-

* "Mirabeau was not friendly to the decree for abolishing titles, armorial bearings, &c. He thus expresses himself: 'It is the most difficult of all undertakings, to erase from the human heart the influence of recollections. True nobility is, for this reason, a property, no less indestructible than sacred. Forms may vary, but the worship will ever continue. Let every man be equal in the eye of the law, let every monopoly disappear; all else is but changing the object of human vanity.' *Lettres à Mauvillon, p. 519.*"

costly

serve among us, and transmit to Posterity, the Portraits of the most distinguished Characters of England, Scotland, and Ireland, since his Majesty's Accession to the Throne. Also, to give Encouragement to British Artists, and to enrich and adorn London with some Galleries of Pictures, Statues, Antiques, Medals, and other valuable Curiosities, without any Expence to Government. By NOEL DESENFANS, Esq. 8vo. pp. 54. 1s. 6d. *Low, Bookseller.*

EXTRACTS.

"GREAT Britain, differing now in so many respects from other monarchies, does not possess, like most countries, a collection of superb costly pictures for the enjoyment of the sovereign, and to which, now and then, the public are permitted access: nor is it probable the King will ever form such a one, as, of the money annually levied for the state, a very small portion is appropriated for the private use of his Majesty; so that I cannot see the possibility of his gratifying himself and the nation with a gallery, such as France possessed, and such as are in Vienna, Spain, and other countries, whose monarchs have the absolute control of the public money.

"The King has, indeed, scattered in different places, some very capital pictures, among which are the celebrated Cartoons of Raphael; but were they all united, they would by no means form a collection to be compared to those of the Louvre, the Escorial, &c.

"Since the 15th century, the kings of France and Spain have been purchasing pictures at a vast expence. Lewis the Fourteenth, whose inordinate ambition aimed at surpassing all other potentates, added to his collection with a profusion which perhaps was hurtful to his people. But although George the Third has, from the commencement of his reign, manifested knowledge and taste, instead of researching

costly pictures and statues from foreign countries, he has made the fine arts of Great Britain the chief object of his attention and munificence, by which the nation has acquired several excellent artists; yet the want of a public gallery is felt, not only to contribute to her splendour, but as a centre-point to the Dilettanti, and a study to her rising artists.

"The sale of the justly-famed Orleans collection seems to have marked this as the period for fulfilling at once the wishes of the student and the connoisseur; but I am informed those pictures have been offered to government, and that, on account of the necessities of the state, it has been judged proper to decline the purchase. Therefore, since that grand object cannot be obtained at once, we must endeavour to obtain it gradually; and for that purpose I have traced a plan, by which, without any expense to government, Great Britain will acquire a gallery of the portraits of our most distinguished characters since the accession of his Majesty to the throne; another with the productions of our historical, battle, landscape, sea, and miniature painters, sculptors and engravers; and a third gallery, with antiques and celebrated pictures of the old masters.

"This plan may be carried on in any part of the metropolis; but Montague House appears to me the most proper place, because it already contains, in the British Museum, which is deposited there, many attractive objects of curiosity, is the property of the nation, and surrounded with land, on which, at an easy expense, those galleries may be erected.

"The admittance to that museum is free. Any person desirous of seeing it, must give in their names and places of abode, and in about a month or six weeks they receive a ticket of admission. But as many are ignorant of the mode of application, and few are certain whether in a month they will not have more serious engagements, Montague House continues little resorted to and little known, notwithstanding it contains many scarce and valuable curiosities, some of which are the gifts of individuals.

"I have besides remarked, unaccountable as it may appear, that all places where no entrance-money is paid are little frequented; our theatres have never been so filled as since the

advanced price, and I am persuaded many of our excellent actors would sometimes perform to empty benches if the admission were free.

"The exhibition of the Royal Academy begins the latter end of April, or early in May, at one shilling each person, and closes about the King's birth-day; during which short space, it generally produces between three and four thousand pounds, without any expense to any individual, for surely the visitors of the exhibition cannot consider their shilling as such.

"As the British Museum was purchased by the nation, the admission to it, as I have just remarked, is free; but is there no possibility of placing it on a footing similar to that of the Royal Academy, for the sake of raising it to a degree of splendour that will rival, or surpass in a few years, any establishment of the kind in Europe? I am aware this cannot be done without an act of the legislature, which I have not the means of soliciting, and which would be, in my opinion, too great a liberty for me to take. I therefore submit the plan to the trustees of the British Museum; most of whom being men in elevation and power, may carry it into practice, if, as I do, they consider it feasible, and likely to be productive of good to the country.

"It will perhaps be objected, that my application is ill-timed, government having more serious business to occupy its attention than the prosperity of the fine arts. In peace, however, they will not want that encouragement which war has deprived them of; and I must remark, that a country so powerful, so commercial, and so opulent as this, will probably always be engaged in, or at the eve of war."

P. 31.

SKETCH OF THE PLAN.

"NO expense shall be incurred for attendants, there being already a sufficient number of them in Montague House on account of the British Museum; but the trustees will appoint a manager or director, with a small salary, who shall carry the plan into execution." P. 36.

"When fifty or sixty portraits shall be completed and arranged, the free admittance to Montague House must be suppressed, and it shall be opened to the public by paying entrance-money

as at the Royal Academy; except, however, the members of that body, their students, and any artists who exhibit with them, for whom the admission will continue free, as well as for any other artist the Royal Academy shall recommend." P. 37.

"The different artists shall not be paid till twelve months after Montague House has been opened; and if, contrary to my expectations, the plan should not be attended with such success as to induce the trustees to continue it longer, the attempt shall cease at the end of the first twelve months, and the artists, instead of receiving the price stipulated for their performances, shall only receive in proportion to the sum levied during the year: in which case, those performances shall remain the property of Montague House; or, if the artist thinks the sum too inadequate, he shall receive back his own works.

"But should the plan be successful the first twelve months, little doubt can be entertained of its being attended with increased success every year; since new objects of curiosity will be added every quarter to the establishment; so that it is probable it will in a short time produce a fund capable of enabling the trustees to commence the galleries I have proposed erecting." P. 39.

"The plan I have offered is simple and easy, and although still capable of improvement, is, in its present state, neither burdensome to government or to individuals; is far from being injurious to commerce, or a clog to the operations of the war; and, without a possibility of its being detrimental, it offers a probability of advantages, far more than equivalent to the objection against entrance-money." P. 52.

IX. *Anecdotes and Biography*: including many modern Characters in the Circles of fashionable and official Life, selected from the Portfolios of a distinguished literary and political Character lately deceased. Alphabetically arranged. By L. T. REDE. 8vo. pp. 461. 7s. Pitkeathley.

EXTRACTS.

AMERICA.

1. "THOSE writers who maintain that the New World was peo-

pled by the inhabitants of the northern part of Asia, which region they named *Scythia*, have this question to answer: Why do we not there find those horses, bulls, camels, animals of so great utility, nor any other belonging to our continent? The Americans were unable to manage horses, and yet the Scythians were in the continual habit of riding.

2. "Beyond the *Obi*, in the immense regions of Tartary, is a great river, called *Kayonia*, which receives the waters of another, known by the name of the *Lena*. At the *Kevonia*, where it discharges itself into the Frozen Sea, lies a large island, frequented by a vast number of people, who resort to it for the purpose of killing certain amphibious animals, which are found there in great abundance, which the people of the country call *Behemots*. These creatures are frequently seen asleep on the ice in the Frozen Sea. The hunters or fishermen often get upon the ice for the purpose of killing their prey. Great alacrity is requisite upon this occasion, therefore the hunters commonly take their wives with them to assist in the chase. It frequently happens that whilst these poor people are engaged in this business a thaw comes suddenly on, by which this immense plain of ice is instantly broken into many floating islands. Upon some of these the hunters are frequently washed to the shore, from which they originally ventured; but, when the wind blows from the shore, these unfortunate men are never seen again by their countrymen; whether they perish through hunger and cold at sea, or are driven to some other coast, is unknown.

"It is not at all improbable but some of these floating islands may have been driven towards the point of North America, which lies at no great distance from that part of Asia which projects into the sea of Tartary. What renders this opinion extremely probable is, that the Americans, who inhabit the parts here alluded to, have exactly the same complexion and features with the Tartars who live upon the island mentioned as situated at the mouth of the *Kayonia*, and precisely the same species of beasts and animals as are found on the borders of the sea of Tartary, that are seen in the most northern parts of the continent of America." P. 21.

ALEX.

ALEXANDER CRUDEN, M. A.

"WHO died in November 1770, at Idington, was one of those remarkable characters, that, while they excite the laugh in us, draw the nerve of pity and compassionate regard on the infirmities of human nature. His Concordance to the Holy Scriptures, dedicated to the late Queen Caroline, will ever remain a monument of his attentive faculties, and his usefulness to mankind. The publication of his adventures, and some other remarks, prove that he was not touched with the insane malady, as Sir William Lee, the chief justice, supposed, when he laid his action of damages against his own sister, for false imprisonment, at 10,000*l.*; for, after this, he lived in the habits of correcting for the press; and several Greek and Roman classics for their accuracy in publication are indebted to him alone. In the year 1754 we find him, on application to Mr. Sheriff Chitty, nominated a candidate for the city of London, and addressing them in hand-bills, acquainting them that he was Alexander the Corrector, and that his election would pave the way for his being a Joseph. In 1762, he was active in behalf of a condemned criminal in Newgate, and succeeded to the satisfaction of all. However some parts of his character may appear of the whimsical kind, his main drift was entirely of the useful; but we cannot help repeating here a circumstance but little known:

"He was in great esteem at one time of life with the famous Dr. Bradbury, a zealous dissenting clergyman. The Doctor had, one evening, prepared an excellent supper for several friends; at the moment it was served on the table, Mr. Cruden made his appearance in the room, heated with walking; the Doctor's favourite dish, a turkey, was smoking at one end of the table, and, before the company could be seated, Cruden advanced, put back his wig, and, with both hands plunged in the gravy, he calmly washed his head and face over the bird, to the no small mortification of the jolly doctor and his company. It was this conduct that proved so fatal to his action against his sister at Westminster Hall; for, on Bradbury's evidence alone respecting it, Judge Lee stopped all further proceedings: on which Mr. Cruden said, 'My Lord,

'don't believe a word that man says; he is very well at Pinners' Hall in the pulpit, but he is not a proper evidence in this court!'" P. 104.

REMARKABLE DREAM OF AN ITALIAN MUSICIAN.

"TARTINI, a celebrated musician, who was born at Pirano, in Istria, being much inclined to the study of music in his early youth, dreamed one night that he had made a compact with the devil, who promised to be at his service on all occasions; and during this vision every thing succeeded according to his mind; his wishes were prevented, and his desires always surpassed by the assistance of his new servant. At last, he imagined that he presented the devil with his violin, in order to discover what kind of a musician he was; when, to his great astonishment, he heard him play a solo so singularly beautiful, and which he executed with such superior taste and precision, that it surpassed all the music which he had ever heard or conceived in his life. So great was his surprise, and so exquisite was his delight upon this occasion, that it deprived him of the power of breathing. He awoke with the violence of his sensation, and instantly seized his fiddle, in hopes of expressing what he had just heard, but in vain; he, however, then composed a piece, which is, perhaps, the best of all his works; he called it the *Devil's Sonata*; but it was so far inferior to what he had fancied in sleep, that he declared he would have broken his instrument, and abandoned music for ever, if he could have found any other means of living." P. 117.

FOSTER.

"MR. Foster had, in the early part of life, been selected by old Edward Wortley Montague, the husband of the late celebrated Lady Mary, and the father of the present Lady Bute, to superintend the education of that very eccentric character, the late Edward Wortley Montague. Foster was perfectly qualified for the station of a private tutor, but his pupil was so exceedingly disposed to fly off, as it were, in a tangent, as to render it utterly im-

impossible to fix his attention to any thing worthy pursuit. After thrice running away, and being discovered by his father's valet crying *Flounders* about the streets of Deptford, he was sent to the West Indies, whither Foster accompanied him. On their return to England, a good-natured stratagem was practised to obtain a temporary supply of money from old Montague, and at the same time to give him a favourable opinion of his son's attention to a particular species of erudition. The stratagem was this: Foster wrote a book, which he entitled *The Rise and Fall of the Roman Republics*. To this he subjoined the name of Edward Wortley Montague, jun. Esq. Old Wortley seeing the book advertised sent for his son, and gave him a bank-note of one hundred pounds, promising him a similar present for every new edition which the book should pass through. It was well received by the public, and therefore a second edition occasioned a second supply. It is now in libraries with the name of Wortley Montague prefixed as the author, although he did not write a line of it. Mr. Foster was afterwards chaplain to the celebrated Sir William Wyndham; he then went to Peterburgh in the suite of the English ambassador. Many years afterwards he became acquainted with the Duke of Kingston, and, on the demise of his Grace, the Duchess appointed him her domestic chaplain; he accompanied her on her first visit to Peterburgh, and the Empress, who had known him before, gave him an appointment in the academy, annexing a stipend out of her privy purse. This appointment he held a short time, and died in the eighty-sixth year of his age." P. 150.

LYONS, BISHOP OF CORK.

"DR. William Lyons, who was preferred to the bishopric of Cork, Cloyne, and Ross, toward the latter end of Queen Elizabeth's reign, was originally a captain of a ship, who distinguished himself so gallantly in several actions with the Spaniards, that, on being introduced to the Queen, she told him he should have the first vacancy that offered.

"The honest captain, who understood the Queen *literally*, soon after

hearing of a vacancy in the *see* of Cork, immediately set out for court, and claimed the royal promise. The Queen, astonished at the request, for a time remonstrated against the impropriety of it, and what she could never think of as an office suitable to him. It was however in vain; he said the royal word was passed, and he relied on it. Her Majesty then said, she would take a few days to consider of it, when, examining into his character, and finding him a sober moral man, as well as an intrepid commander, she sent for Lyons, and gave him the bishopric, saying at the same time, 'she hoped he would take as good care of the church as he had done of the state.'

"Lyons immediately set out for his bishopric, which he enjoyed for above twenty years with great reputation to himself, never attempting however to preach but once, and that was on the death of the Queen. On that melancholy occasion, he thought it his duty to pay the last honours to his royal mistress, and accordingly mounted the pulpit in Christ-church, in Cork; when, after giving a good discourse on the uncertainty of life, and the great and amiable qualities of the Queen, he concluded in the following warm but whimsical manner: 'Let those who feel this loss deplore with me on this melancholy occasion; but, if there be any that hear me who have secretly wished for this event (as perhaps there may be), they have now got their wish, and the devil do them good with it.'

"The bishop's name and the date of his appointment (1583) are on record in the consistorial court of Cork; and his picture, in his captain's uniform, the left hand wanting a finger, is to be seen in the Bishop's palace at Cork." P. 267.

X. *Coombe Ellen*: a Poem, written in Radnorshire, September 1798, by the Rev. W. L. BOWLES, A. M. 4to. pp. 27. 2s. Crutwell, Bath; Dilly, Cadell, London.

EXTRACT.

"NOW through the whispering
wood
We steal, and mark the old and massy
oaks

Im-

Imbosh the mountain slope; or the wild
 ash,
 With rich red clusters mantling; or
 the birch
 In lonely glens light-wav'ring; till
 behold
 The rapid river shooting through the
 gloom
 Its lucid line along; and on its side
 The bordering pastures green, where
 the swink'd ox
 Lies dreaming, heedless of the num-
 erous flies
 That, in the transitory sunshine, hum
 Round his broad breast; and farther
 up, the cot,
 With blue light smoke ascending:
 images
 Of peace and comfort, the wild rocks
 around
 Endear your smile the more, and the
 full mind,
 Sliding from scenes of dread magni-
 ficence,
 Sinks on your charms reposing: such
 repose
 The sage may feel, when, fill'd and
 half oppress'd
 With vast conceptions, smiling he re-
 tires
 To life's consoling sympathies, and
 hears,
 With heart-felt tenderness, the bells
 ring out,
 Or pipe upon the mountains; or the
 low
 Of herds slow winding down the cot-
 tag'd vale,
 Where day's last sunshine lingers:
 such repose
 He feels, who following where his
 Shakespeare leads,
 As in a dream, through an enchanted
 land,
 Here with Macbeth, in the dread ca-
 vern hails
 The Weird Sisters, and the dismal
 deed
 Without a name; there sees the charm-
 ed isle,

The lone domain of Prospero, and,
 hark!
 Wild music, such as earth scarce seems
 to own,
 And Ariel o'er the slow-subsiding surge
 Singing her smooth air quaintly: such
 repose
 Steals o'er her spirits, when, through
 storms at sea,
 Fancy has follow'd some nigh-found-
 er'd bark,
 Full many a league, in ocean's soli-
 tude
 Toss'd, far beyond the cape of utmost
 Horne
 That stems the roaring deep; her
 dreary track
 Still Fancy follows, and at dead of
 night
 Hears, with strange thunder, the huge
 fragments fall
 Crashing, from mountains of high-
 drifting ice
 That o'er her bows gleam fearful; till
 at last
 She hails the gallant ship in some still
 bay
 Safe moor'd, or of delightful Tinian,
 (Smiling, like fairy isle, amid the
 waste)
 Or of New Zealand, where, from
 shelt'ring rocks,
 The clear cascades gush beautiful, and
 high
 The woodland scenery tow'rs above
 the mast,
 Whose long and wavy ensign streams
 beneath,
 Far inland, clad in snow, the moun-
 tains lift
 Their spiry summits, and endear the
 more
 The sylvan scene around; the healing
 air
 Breathes o'er green myrtles, and the
 poe-bird flits
 Amid the shade of aromatic shrubs,
 With silver neck, and bluey-burnish'd
 wing." P. 11.

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